persons were injured during Kumbh Mahotsav at Nasik during August-September this year.

(c) and (d) A preliminary Enquiry into incident has so far revealed that some Sadhu Mahantas who took procession with elephants and vehicles without obtaining prior permission as well as Sadhus who were throwing Prasad, flowers and coins during procession were mainly responsible for the incident. The State Government has also ordered a Magisterial Enquiry in this regard.

(e) A compensation of Rs. 2 lakhs per person in the case of death and Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 50,000 per person to the injured persons depending on the scale of injury has been announced by the State Government. An amount of Rs. 52 lakhs has so far been disbursed to the legal heirs of the deceased and Rs. 8.60 lakhs to the injured persons by the State Government.

Application format for marriage certificates in Delhi

818. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that each district of Delhi is asking for various set of information for getting marriage certificates from the Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that time taken for issuing the certificate is also very long; and

(c) what steps are being taken to rectify the discrepancies in the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The information relating to registration of marriages is available on the website of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi **www.delhigovt.nic.in** which is uniformly applicable in all the Districts. The time taken in the issuance of the certificates is also not too long.

Check on hostile attitude of witnesses before the Magistrate

819. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to check the hostile attitude of the witnesses before the Magistrate which ultimately result in the acquittal of the accused; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when an amendment in the Cr. P.C. is likely to be made and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) To prevent the evil of witness turning hostile, a Bill namely, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2003 which, *inter alia,* proposed to amend Sections 161,162 and 344 and to insert new sections 164A and 344A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The proposed amendments, require that the statements of all persons which appear to be material and essential for proper investigation of the case relating to offences punishable with death or imprisonment for seven years or more shall be recorded on oath by Magistrate who will also satisfy himself that such person is making the statement voluntarily and not under any inducement, threat or promise. Also, it has been proposed to have a provision for summary trial for perjury and to enhance the punishment for perjury after the summary trial.

Opening of station in Srinagar by UK Police

820. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that UK police is planning to open a station in Srinagar in an attempt to deal with criminal who target Britain from India;

(b) whether UK Government have made any request, formal or informal to allow the UK police to open a base in Srinagar for the purpose; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Road accidents in Delhi

821. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: